

possibility of generation of electricity through wind energy, mini-hydro and micro-hydro in Andaman-Nicobar is being seriously considered and we shall give priority to the project within our plants.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Sir, May I know from the hon. Minister the comparative cost of 38.31 MW of electricity generated through wind energy and 38.31 MW generated through a diesel plant?

MR. SPEAKER: This question will mislead the entire House. This is the initial expenditure.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Sir, at present the expenditure on generating electricity through wind energy is nearly Rs. 2.75 crore per megawatt.

[English]

Power Generation in Eastern Region

*350. **SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage ratio of participation of the Union Government in generating power in the Eastern region is much lower as compared to the Northern and Western regions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to enhance the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Out of the total installed generating capacities in the Eastern, Northern and Western Regions, the Central Sector Generating units account for 29.85%, 31.43% and 18.89% respectively as on 31.3.1991. The ratio of central sector generation in the Eastern Region compares favourably with the Northern and is higher

than the Western Region.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his answer that the ratio of Central-sector generation in the Eastern Region compares favourably with the Northern Region and is higher than the Western Region. But, in 1951, just before the advent of our Planning process, the Eastern Region in general and West Bengal in particular had the highest capacity of power generation. This region has now come down to the lowest position. In 1991, out of the 66,000 MW capacity, West Bengal has only 3000 MW and the Eastern Region as a whole has 9000 MW capacity. So, may I request the hon. Minister to give details of the investment made by the Central Government in different Plan periods date-wise and Central-Sector generating station-wise?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: The hon. Member has asked as question about shortage of power generation in the Eastern Region. But I want to tell the hon. Member that today the shortage of energy in the Eastern Region is 15 per cent and the peak demand shortage is 20 per cent. Regarding the question why there is the problem of shortage in the Eastern Zone, I want to tell the hon. Members that there are several reasons for that. One, now the Plant Load Factor in the Eastern Region, in all the States, is the lowest. But there is a question: What is the existing capacity today? In Bihar, it is only 20 per cent. In Bengal, the State Electricity Board's Plant Load Factor is 19 per cent; in Orissa, it is 37 per cent. I now come to the question of what is the existing capacity today. In the Eastern Region, how to use maximum capacity and how to increase the Plant Load Factor is the question. Only by doing this, the problem of energy shortage can be solved. I want to tell the hon. Member that the Central sector is giving priority for power generation in the Eastern region. Now there is a Talcher Project with 3000 megawatt capacity in Orissa. The Farakka Project with 21,000 megawatt capacity super thermal power station is under construction in Bengal. There is a Kehalgau project with 2000 megawatt capacity power generation

in Bihar. Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell you that the transmission lines which were to be constructed by the Bengal and Orissa Governments in 1989, till today, they have not been completed. In Bihar, Rangali and Karghat transmission lines which were to be completed during the Sixth Five Year Plan, till today the work has not started. I can create power, but how to evacuate power from one place to another place as this is a work to be done by the transmission lines. Now the State Governments of Orissa Bihar and Bengal have not constructed the transmission lines. They are not increasing the plant load factor. That is the reason for the power shortage in the Eastern region.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: The hon. Minister's reply is not in any way connected or related to my question. I wanted to know about the Central Government's investment, station-wise and region-wise. But he has said not a single word about that.

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not have that information, you can send the reply.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: The hon. Members had asked about the Central Government's contribution. Is the Talcher Project with 3000 megawatt capacity in Orissa not a Central project? The Farakka... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Member wants to know about the Central Government's contribution towards power generation, centre-wise. That information is not likely to be with you at this point of time. You can send that in writing.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: In the Eighth Five Year Plan objectives, 31000 megawatt power generation has been decided. In the Eastern Region, 8000 megawatt of power generation is under consideration. The National Development Council is to meet in May and it will finalise the Central sector's participation.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: The hon. Minister has not said anything about what I wanted

to know. If a statement is laid on the Table of the House, then it will be clear whether the Eastern region compares favourably with the Western region. But it is not correct. I want to know that... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him formulate the question.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : I want an assurance from the hon. Minister saying that he will lay a statement on the Table of the house about the investments, region-wise and station wise.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know about the Central Government's investment in the Eastern region. And he want that a statement be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Whatever question the hon. Member has asked, I will reply to that by writing a letter to him. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: My second supplementary is...

MR. SPEAKER: No, pleased. You have put more than two or three questions.

DR. DEVI PROSAD PAL: Power shortage in West Bengal is acute particularly for the industrial requirements. I want to know from the Minister whether there is any programme for embarking or launching any new project for power generation where the Central Government will participate and make contribution. I also want to know was the Farakka Project, which he has referred to was started, and how long will it take to complete the project?

MR. SPEAKER: The first part of the question is already answered. You can answer the second part.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: It is an admitted fact that there is shortage of power in West Bengal because the State Government is not doing anything concrete and time-bound for the production of the power. About the

Farakka, he has asked a question, 610 MW unit is under construction now. The total capacity is 2,100 MW; two units of 500 MW each are under construction and 600 MW unit has already been energised. We are hoping that after the end of the Ninth Plan, we shall be in a position to complete the 2,100 MW unit Thermal Power Station in Farakka. The second thing is that the Government has sanctioned the Koel-Karo Projects of 710 MW in Bihar at Kehalgaon. The third is that we are going to sanction the project at Tiesta which is of 1200 MW. After the completion of these projects, the energy, shortage in the Eastern region will be solved.

DR. DEVI PROSAD PAL: The hon. Minister has said that it will be after the completion of the Ninth Plan which means five years plus another five years. Is the hon. Minister suggesting that after ten years only the Farakka projects of 2,100 MW will be commissioned?

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask one supplementary Shri Pal. I am asking him to invite you for a cup of tea and give the entire information. Now Shri Jena:

SHRI SRIKANTA JANA: The hon. Minister has really avoided the question. The question was about the Central Government's contribution in power generation in the Eastern region when compared to the other regions. May I know from the hon. Minister, from the First Plan till the end of the Seventh Plan, what was the contribution of the Central Government in the entire country and what was the contribution in the State or Orissa? The Central Government's contribution in power generation, in the State of Orissa, was almost nil upto the Seventh Plan. During the Seventh Plan, it was almost totally neglected. You are taking coal from Talcher and Ib valley to other States. May I know why are you not giving priority in setting up new projects in the Ib valley and expansion of the Talcher projects in the Ib valley and expansion of the Talcher project? You are loudly saying that you are investing money in the Talcher project. It is only for the last two years, that you have started this

project. May I know what was the contribution of the Central Government upto the end of the Seventh Plan in those regions and particularly in Orissa?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the country is divided into five zones - Eastern, Northern, Southern and North-Eastern. Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Sikkim, they are part of the Eastern region. The hon. Member has asked a question as to how much is the contribution. I have already told that it is 29 per cent. Out of the total installed generating capacity in the Eastern. Western and Northern regions, the Central sector generation units account for 29.85 per cent in the Eastern region; 31 per cent in the Northern regions and only 18 per cent in the Western regions. And for further increase, the biggest Thermal Power projects is going to be constructed in Orissa at Talcher. Shri Rajiv Gandhi laid the foundation for that. You know that its capacity is 3,000 MW and it the biggest power project. 25 per cent power is generated by the Central sector and 75 per cent is generated by the State Governments. If your State Government does not do anything, what can I do? Am I responsible for that?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Then what is the role of the Central Government? Are you prepared... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No. Now Q. No. 351, Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik:

[*Translation*]

Tourism in Haryana

*351 **SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Haryana for promotion of tourism in the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and